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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

Cooperative Technical Assistance Among Domestic Enterprises

1. Cooperative technical assistance among the various enterprises in Czechoslovakia producing electric machinery and apparatus was carried on in a manner similar to the way in which technical assistance is exchanged among various factories belonging to the same concern in a capitalistic economy. The Communist policy was to have the more experienced enterprises assist those with less experience and to attempt to eliminate all duplication of effort; this was especially true with regard to development activity.[1] One enterprise would supply another with information concerning production processes and/or blueprints, if such information were on hand from former production; however, there was no assistance which involved one enterprise assuming the task of another and developing an item or a process new to that enterprise. (In this report "cooperative technical assistance" should be understood to mean the supplying of information or advice on a particular problem and should not be confused with joint collaboration of two or more enterprises in effecting delivery of an order.) The enterprises subordinate to one main administration dealt with each other directly, while enterprises subordinate to different main administrations had to deal through their particular main administrations when requesting and obtaining technical assistance. The enterprises were usually willing to exchange technical data; the only plant which was rather reluctant to give assistance was ET of the V.I. Lenin Works in Pilsen. Because it was the most experienced of all factories in the field of strong current electricity in Czechoslovakia, ET believed that it would be giving assistance and information to a one-way channel because factories other than ET were not advanced enough to reciprocate with contributions of any significance. On the other hand, the exchange of technical assistance also depended upon the relationship among leading technicians at the enterprises concerned.

Technical Assistance Between Czechoslovakia, Other Satellites, and the USSR

2. Cooperative technical assistance was established between Czechoslovakia and the USSR. each country compiled a list of specific questions concerning subjects about which they wanted to receive information. The subjects were determined in advance; a list was probably prepared for each year and the information was exchanged on a give and take basis. only one subject about which Czechoslovakia received information from the Soviets -- the production of carbon brushes. At the end of 1953 or early 1954 a Czechoslovak delegation went to the USSR to study this production.[2] 50X1 50X1

3. Cooperative technical assistance between Czechoslovakia and East Germany was insignificant in the field of electric machinery. 50X1 As far as the field of electric apparatus was concerned, the factory for 50X1 the production of selenium rectifiers, which he thought was a CKD plant, located in Rokytnice nad Jizerou (N 50-43, E 15-27), received detailed technical data from the East German Gleichrichterwerke firm in Gross Räschen, about 30 km. southwest of Cottbus (N 51-46, E 14-20). The Rokytnice factory produced complete selenium rectifier sets and also individual selenium plates; source believed it was the only factory for this type production in Czechoslovakia. Selenium rectifiers were the main product of this factory. The quality of the Czechoslovak products was very poor -- the current often cut through the plates; however, the plant promised MEZ Vsetin (N 49-20, E 18-00) that it would improve the quality of these rectifiers by adopting the East German production method and that the rectifiers would be completely satisfactory by the beginning of 1955. 50X1 50X1 the East German method called for coating the plates with selenium under vacuum.

4. there was cooperative technical assistance between Czechoslovakia and Poland. As a matter of fact, the Ministry of Engineering asked MEZ Vsetin about the possibility of MEZ replying to questions received from Poland concerning generators for charging batteries used in automatic telephone switchboards. MEZ Vsetin was unable to supply this information. The first generators of this kind were under production at MEZ Vsetin at the time the request for information was made and the plant had not yet had much experience with the product. Production of these generators was new to Czechoslovakia and MEZ Vsetin was the only plant engaged in their production. The questions were received sometime in 1953. 50X1

5. there was more cooperative technical assistance in the field of electric machinery with Hungary than with any other Satellite country or the USSR. The first delegation of Hungarian technicians to visit Czechoslovakia known to source was the delegation which visited ET in 1950. The visiting technicians were interested in machines of all kinds. The ET officials were not particularly friendly toward the Hungarian representatives and kept strict control of the notes taken by the Hungarian technicians. 50X1

6. Preparations for the first visit of Czechoslovak electrical technicians to Hungary were begun at the end of 1950. The delegation was to visit Ganz Villany in Budapest, presently known as the Klement Gottwald Electrical Factory, and was to study machines only. The selection of delegates caused much controversy but, finally, the following representatives were chosen: Ing. Rozek (fnu) from ET was to study commutator and induction motors; Ing. Riha (fnu) from CKD was to study synchronous generators, including turbo-generators;

Ing. Limbora (fnu) from the Research Institute, Division of Strong Current, Ministry of Heavy Engineering was to study cooling systems for electric machines; Ing. Londin (fnu) from MEZ Development was to study induction motors; and source was to study DC machines. All delegates selected were specifications engineers; unfortunately, it never occurred to the Czechoslovak authorities to send some designing engineers also. The entire visit was considered "confidential". All matters concerning DC machines were given the code designation M 2309.

Kovo, National Enterprise, also helped organize the trip. In the spring of 1951, each of the representatives was to submit a list of the subjects about which he wished to obtain information. The representatives were told that they were to confine themselves to the questions listed and were also told that they were to answer no technical questions which might be asked by the Hungarians.

7. The delegation spent three weeks in September 1951 at the Ganz firm. The notes taken by the visiting technicians each day in the factory were put into final form by the technicians at the end of each day and submitted to their Hungarian counterparts for correction or possible errors. The notes were then dispatched by diplomatic courier pouch. The representatives were not allowed to take any written information with them personally. Some of the blueprints requested by the representatives reached them several months after their visit. Certain design factors of large machines, particularly turbo-generators, proved to be quite remarkable; however, in general, source believed that ET production methods were superior to those of Ganz. the ET factory was larger in size than Ganz.

The Hungarian technicians were very friendly. All of the Hungarian counterparts, with the exception of the chief, were non-Communists. They confided in some of the Czechoslovak delegates whom they trusted, and agreed that perhaps the best solution for the problems of Czechoslovakia and Hungary would be participation in a federation of small European states. The attitude of the Hungarian technicians was in sharp contrast to the impression received from Soviet technicians he met in Czechoslovakia. The Soviets he met gave the impression of being extremely distrustful and avoided any conversation which did not relate to the business at hand.

8. A Hungarian delegation came to Czechoslovakia in 1952 to study regulation techniques and servomechanisms. The members of this delegation were Ing. Kelemen (fnu), Ing. Rozsa (fnu), and another member whose name could not recall. The three worked in research activities; however, did not know whether or not the research activities were carried on within the framework of the Ganz firm. The delegates visited MEZ Vsetin for the purpose of studying amplidynes. In 1952 or perhaps early 1953, Zoubek (fnu)3, chief of the Department for Driving Sets at MEZ Development, and another technician visited the Ganz firm for the purpose of gaining information about electric drives for ships. At that time, sending another delegation to the Ganz firm in order to study traction machinery was also under consideration.

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because these countries had little to offer in this regard.

Adoption of Soviet Industrial Standards

10. There was apparent pressure exerted in Czechoslovak industry to adjust existing Czechoslovak standards to Soviet standards or to apply Soviet standards in cases where no Czechoslovak standards were established.[4] As far as the production of strong current electric machinery was concerned, [redacted] an official suggestion regarding this policy which was issued by the Ministry of Engineering and which reached MEZ Vsetin sometime in 1953. MEZ Vsetin also received Soviet standards which were sent by the Ministry. The Soviet standards which related to DC machinery concerned, for the most part, items for which Czechoslovak standards had already been established, with the exception of standards for generators for charging batteries used in automatic telephone switchboards and standards for low-voltage generators. MEZ Vsetin accepted the former standards as they were set forth, but accepted only part of the latter standards. The Soviet standards for low-voltage generators required that each machine have two independent commutators which could be connected either in parallel or in series; MEZ Vsetin produced each machine with one commutator only.

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